

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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R 081539Z NOV 76
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
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INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USMISSION OECD PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 18856

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, EFIN, EAID, EGEN, CIEC, UNCTAD, GW
SUBJ: FRG POSTPONES DECISION ON NORTH/SOUTH ISSUES

REF: BONN 18793

1. ECON/COMM. MINISTER WAS IN TOUCH WITH DEPUTY
ASST. SEC LOECK IN CHANCELLERY ON NOV. 8 TO ASK HIM
WHETHER PRESS REPORTS ON THE RESULTS OF FRIDAY'S
MINISTERIAL MEETING ON NORTH/SOUTH ISSUES WERE CORRECT.

2. ACCORDING TO LOECK, WHO IS WORKING ON THE PROTOCOL
OF THE MINISTERIAL MEETING, PRESS REPORTS WERE BASED
ON SPECULATION. HE INSISTED THAT THE FRG DECISION
BOILS DOWN TO THE CONVICTION THAT THE EC SHOULD HAVE
A COMMON CONCEPTION ON RAW MATERIALS, DEBT, AND OTHER
NORTH/SOUTH ISSUES. TO THAT END, THE FRG BELIEVES
THAT ANOTHER EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO REACH SUCH
A CONSENSUS AT THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL MEETING ON
NOV. 29.

3. LOECK SAID IT WAS ALSO NECESSARY TO KNOW WHAT
THE U.S. WANTS, AND THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT THE
EC NOT TAKE ANY POSITION WITHOUT CONSIDERING U.S.
VIEWS.

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4. UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, LOECK DID NOT EXPECT THAT THE EC WOULD BE ABLE TO FORWARD A LETTER TO UNCTAD IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

5. COMMENT: LOECK MAY BE RIGHT ON SPECULATION IN PRESS REPORTS. HOWEVER, RESULT OF MEETING, EVEN AS REPORTED BY LOECK, LEAVES US WHERE WE WERE BEFORE FRIDAY'S MEETING. RESULT CAN, PROBABLY THEREFORE, BE CONSIDERED VICTORY OF FINANCE MINISTER AND CHANCELLOR OVER A "FLEXIBLE" FOREIGN AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION MINISTER (JOINED BY A SOMEWHAT RELUCTANT ECONOMICS MINISTER).
STOESSEL

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